

The report of the Finance Committee re expenses for the holding of the next Grand Lodge session, was received on motion of P. G. C., J. E. Evans, seconded by G. R., H. Hoffmeister, and Rossland was designated as the place of meeting for the next annual convention.

Vote of Thanks.

Victoria, B. C., May 10th, 1899.

Moved by Bro. A. H. Ferguson, seconded by Bro. G. D. Brown, that a hearty vote of thanks be tendered to the Victoria Lodges for the kind reception to this Grand Lodge during their stay in this city. Carried.

Moved by T. Ackerman, seconded by John McDonald, that this Grand Lodge tender a hearty vote of thanks to the press of this city for their kindly mention and fair reports of the proceedings of this convention. Carried.

Moved by N. Binns, seconded by A. G. Creelman, that the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Bro. Randolph for his services as reporter for this Grand Lodge. Carried.

Moved by P. G. C., J. E. Evans, seconded by G. M. of Ex., E. E. Leason, that a letter of thanks be tendered to G. C. Young, of the Grand Domain of Washington, for the kindly sympathy shown and offer of help extended to our Brother Knights in Westminster at the time of the great fire in that city. Carried.

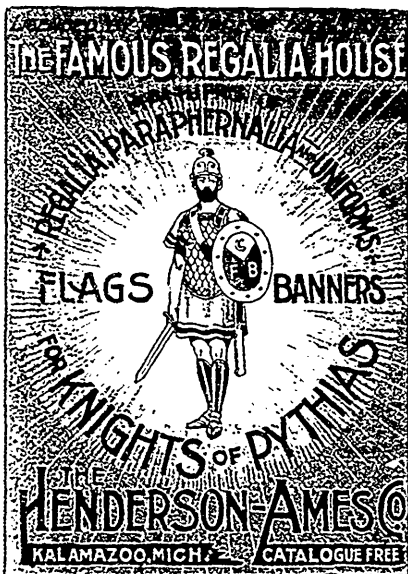
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ADDRESS DELIVERED BY WALTER B. RICHIE,

Past Supreme Chancellor, at the Unveiling of the Rathbone Monument, Utica, New York, July 26th, 1899.

Mr. Chairman, Supreme Chancellor,

Brethren, Ladies and Gentlemen:—Those who follow, may turn to the last page of this the grandest and best of the centuries since the star shone over Bethlehem, and find this monument, and its history, telling as no monument has told or will tell, the story of fraternal love.

This monument, marks the resting place of him who made the story of ancient Greece the corner stone of a fraternity, whose warp and woof is friendship of man to man, charity of man for man, confidence and trust of man in man. This monument now, by the formal unveiling, its deliverance by the committee which had charge of the erection, and its acceptance by the Supreme Chancellor on behalf of one-half million of brave men, becomes the property, the care and the trust of the entire membership of this grand fraternity.

The founder of this Order was born, October 29th, 1839, at Deerfield, a village near this City. From a poem now in the possession of Past Supreme Representative William D. Kennedy, of Chicago, (written by his father, who was a prominent lawyer, at one time a jurist in this city), in which his early life is set forth, we gather, that, he was largely devoted to the pranks and jollities of early youth. Although thoroughly educated and prepared by his father for the legal profession, the serious side of the proposition did not evidently find favor with the young man. In the late fifties he drifted to northern Michigan, and on January 5th, 1860, he was authorised "To teach orthography, grammar, reading, geography, writing and arithmetic in the township schools in the Township of Houghton, County of Houghton," and State of Michigan. The death of his father caused his return to the east, and, in 1861, at Germantown, Pennsylvania, he became connected with the United States service in the Hospital at that place. In 1863 he entered the army, in connection with the Medical Department, in the City of Washington. In 1865 he went into the office of the Commissary-General. From 1866 to 1869 he was in the Second Auditor's office of the Treasury Department. He then went to Boston, entering a publishing house, and, at the end of two years, he returned to Washington, entering the office of the Adjutant-General, where he remained until a few years prior to his death. In 1877 he was, by the Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias, created, Supreme Lecturer, in which position he continued up to his death, the last three years being exclusively devoted to this work.

The Grand Domain of Ohio, and especially my home City of Lima and my home Lodge, Lima No. 31, had most prominent part in his last days, death and burial. On December 9th, 1889, after several weeks' illness, during which he received the loving care and ministrations of the brethren of Lima Lodge, he passed away. During his last days he had the presence of his loving daughters and only sister.